

REMARKS

The application has been amended and is believed to be in condition for allowance.

The subject matter of claims 3 and 7 has been incorporated into independent claims 1 and 10. New independent claim 16 is based on a combination of claims 1, 3 and 7.

Note, however, that the recitations added to the independent claims, although based on claims 3 and 7, are more defining than the language previously used in these claims. Accordingly, applicants believe that the independent claims patentably recite the present invention. Applicants further believe that the dependent claims are allowable at least for depending from an allowable independent claim.

The specification has been amended to add section headings.

Claims 1-12 and 14-15 stand rejected as anticipated by FRANZ et al. (EP 805403).

Claim 13 stands rejected as obvious over FRANZ et al. in view of BROWN et al. 5,768,603.

According to the Official Action, the features of claims would be disclosed in FRANZ et al.

FRANZ et al. disclose a translation method, which is based on translating segments according to the syntactic structure of a sentence. FRANZ et al. disclose on page 5, lines 14-21: "...means for dividing the first language sentence into

syntax units consisting of predetermined units of sentence structure...detecting means for detecting examples similar to the syntax units of the first language sentence outputted from the dividing means..." and further "...translating means for translating the first language sentence in syntax units on the basis...".

So the structures are included in defined types of structures based on their syntactic character: verb phrases, nominal phrases, etc.

In the present invention, the structural segments are not predetermined units of sentence structure, which would be divided into predetermined syntactic types that would be permanently programmed into the system. In the inventive solution, the structural segments may be defined differently.

In the invention, the segments may be:

- based on knowledge base,
- new structures formed during the translation,
- structures not limited to one part of a structure tree but can include parts from many syntactic structures; and/or
- new segments that are input during the translation that may include a new syntactic structure.

The features of claim 3 include inputting a translation segment and storing it into the knowledge base together and logically linked with the structural segment, if no model segment is found in the comparison. In Figure 1, this is shown clearly

as steps 131-134. Claim 7 includes updating a rule based on said input of the user.

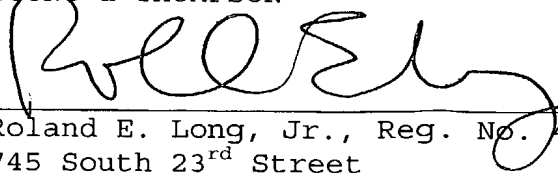
The features of claims 3 and 7 mean that the system is interactive; it is possible to input new model segments when necessary, and the system can update rules based on this input from the user. In the method of FRANZ et al., all syntactic structures are programmed into the system in a fixed manner. There is no possibility for real time updating based on user input during the translation process.

Taking the above into consideration, applicants believe that it is clear that the amended independent claims and new independent claim 16 recite the invention in a manner which is both novel and non-obvious over the prior art. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of all the pending claims are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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